



SC School Improvement Council

“Civic Engagement in Public Education”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 25, 2013

Contact: Tom F. Hudson, Associate Director, SC School Improvement Council
(803) 777-7658 HUDSONTF@mailbox.sc.edu

State Sen. Nikki Setzler receives SIC Champion Award

COLUMBIA – State Senator Nikki G. Setzler (D-District 26, Aiken, Calhoun, Lexington and Saluda Counties) has been presented the SC School Improvement Council (SC-SIC) Board of Trustees’ SIC Champion Award.

The presentation was made Saturday, March 23, during the SC-SIC Annual Meeting in Columbia.

“Sen. Setzler has been a champion for our state’s School Improvement Councils and public education throughout his 36 years in the South Carolina Senate,” said SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chair Ellen M. Still. “For his unwavering support of the value and voices of SICs in their local schools and for continuously fighting the good fight on their behalf, we are honored and pleased to express to him our gratitude and present him with this award.”

His service in the South Carolina Senate began in 1977 and has run uninterrupted to the present day. Chair of the Senate Education Committee from 1988 to 2000, Sen. Setzler currently serves as a member of that committee, as well as the Senate Banking and Insurance, Finance, Interstate Cooperation, and Labor, Commerce and Industry committees. He also is a member of the Advisory Group for the Southern Regional Education Board.

Sen. Setzler has received numerous accolades over the years from various education related organizations for his commitment to and policy leadership for South Carolina’s educational system and students. Among the groups recognizing Sen. Setzler have been: SC Council of Elementary School Principals; Independent Colleges and Universities of South Carolina; SC School Boards Association; Palmetto State Teachers Association; SC Counseling Association; SC Council of Parents and Teachers; SC Association of School Librarians; SC Chamber of Commerce; SC Department of Education; State Board of Education; SC Association of Teacher Educators; SC Education Association; SC Association of Taxpayers; Governor’s Workforce Education Taskforce; SC Chapter, and the National Coalition for Public School Options.

He has also been awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by the University of Charleston; Honorary Doctorate of Education by Columbia College; and an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of South Carolina.

An attorney by profession, Sen. Setzler is founding partner of Setzler & Scott, P.A., in West Columbia. He served as Cayce City Judge from 1974 to 1976, attorney for the Town of Springdale from 1975 to 1977, and has served as attorney for the City of West Columbia since 1992.

Sen. Setzler and his wife, Ada Jane, reside in West Columbia and have four children, Tara Nikole, Jamie Leona, Sabra Taylor, and Amber Jane.

Located in the University of South Carolina’s College of Education, the SC School Improvement Council was established in state law 35 years ago to provide the member training, technical assistance, statutory accountability, and operational resources vital to the continued success of the community-based School Improvement Councils – and their nearly 15,000 members – in each of the state’s 1,100-plus K-12 public schools.